

# The Mitchell Walker ID

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A membership application form is on page 4.

Issue 93

July 2022

Mitchell Walking Group is a program of Broadford Living & Learning Centre inc. 158-160 High St, Broadford 3658

*Back on track. There are 3 reports in this month's edition of our newsletter. Thanks to all who contributed photos and reports. You make my job a lot easier. (Ed.)*

## **Slip Staff Gulley at Goldie Bushland Reserve. Sunday. 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022.**

This lovely little walk of 9.5 kms was through part of the Goldie Bushland Reserve located halfway between Kilmore and Lancefield.

We were in pleasantly surprised at the 11 brave souls that turned up to face the cooler conditions. Yvonne led the walk up the only large hill, quickly we all were warm and the sun started to shine. The rest of the walk was very flat with a few muddy spots to navigate around.

We approach The Goldie Reserve and followed the 120-year-old disused railway line and discussed the 6 stations that serviced this line. It only operated for 5 years before it was scrapped but was very visible with its cuttings and embankments. Everyone was looking for koalas but none were found this time. The pace was fast and we reached our turnaround point in just over an hour. By taking McGraths Lane we extend the walk by another 2 km and saw much more of the old railway line.

This time everyone was at full steam as we turned onto the old Kilmore-Lancefield Road which brought us back to the parked cars by lunchtime. Several of us then decided to have coffee at the new shop in Kilmore. The day was enjoyed by all with pleasant conversations and wide smiles the norm of the day. Thank you, Yvonne, for being the leader and to all those that attended.



## **Spring Plains Circuit. Tooborac. Sunday 17th July. 2022**

Hello Walkers. Yesterday, Sunday the 17 July on our regular fortnightly walk we ventured toward Tooborac.

This was not the planned Castlemaine walk, but it

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was a lot closer. The weather was predicted as rain, but held off for all but the last kilometre or so. I led the walk and found it listed on the All Trails app.. Wouldn't you know it? It was mapped and posted there by our very own Paul Bramich.

As leader I therefore didn't need to do much, Paul led and showed us the many mines and mine sites he had found previously. This had clearly been a very busy gold mining area, long abandoned and now sadly there are quite a few mines filled with rubbish, albeit that the area is mostly fairly tidy.



Walkers were Fran, Paul, John and Marg B, Ben and I. The area was mostly flat and needs to be explored again as there are a few other tracks within and outside the area; one track apparently leads all the way to Heathcote. (Great for a bike ride.)

The walk area is a long narrow section of scrub north-west of Tooborac, criss-crossed by many mines and enclosed by farm land either side. The countryside was very green and we found many green moss-covered areas around the trees and mine shafts.



The shafts have been dug in long lines to follow the gold seam at the time, some are quite deep and we needed to be careful exploring. One or two shafts were horizontal and could have been crawled into, but none of us was

feeling brave enough.

The weather was mostly dry but cold so we all layered up, and beanies were the order of the day.

The walks stats. were 9.8 km length with an elevation gain of 226 metres. We walked for 3 hours and 25 minutes and took 4 hours and 16 minutes in total, with breaks.

After the walk we relaxed by a fire with a cuppa at the Tooborac café/PO, before heading home.

(Report by Fred.)



**Murrindindi Scenic Reserve. Sunday 31st July. 2022.** On 31st July 2022 Yvonne, Fred, Arthur, Haley, Valerie, Paul and Fran travelled to Murrindindi Scenic Reserve which is at the northern end of Toolangi State Forest near Healesville. Toolangi State Forest is the traditional land of the Wurundjeri tribe and in the Wurundjeri language, Murrindindi means 'mountain home'.

Paul, our leader, gave us all the option of five walks and we opted

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for the Wilhelmina Falls and Boroondara track circuit, a grade 4 walk of 12 km.

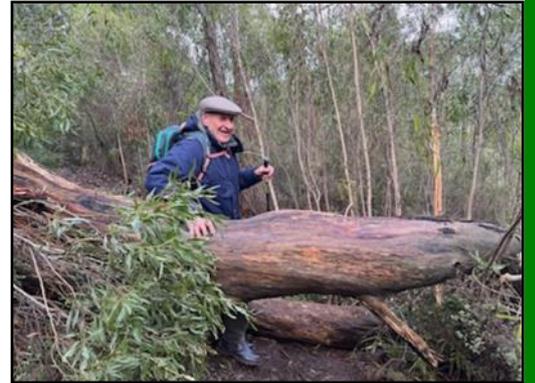
Initially we walked along beside the Murrindindi River under a canopy of mixed-species trees and towering tree ferns.

Pretty quickly we took on the challenge of climbing rocks and steps. The foliage became sparser with spectacular Mountain Ash trees, native correas, grevillias and grasses.

On our way up we could see Wilhelmina waterfall through the trees and how far we still had to climb. Fortunately, on the very steep sections, poles and chains were strategically placed for the more timid climbers. At a strategic rock face where a pole and chain had collapsed our esteemed leader Paul's epic assistance ensured nobody fell to their peril.

Upon reaching the rocky base of Wilhelmina Falls we had a cuppa and took photos of the spectacular falls cascading over granite rocks.

We continued up, up and up along metal stairs over and between the granite boulders to the lookout at the top of the falls, with spectacular views of the surrounding mountain range including Mt Despair.



Paul arranged for a burst of sunshine whilst resting and lunching at a table and chairs at the top of the falls. We could see the base of Wilhelmina falls and once again enjoyed viewing the rushing waterfalls from the top

Paul assured us we would then be going down but, from memory, there was a lot more up before descending along some pretty steep sections. Once again, we loved the canopy of tall trees, ferns and native flora. Fallen trees along most of the track gave us a chance to ensure every muscle in our aching bodies was stretched.

Despite Murrindindi being a popular walk, light rain, winds and freezing conditions resulted in our group having the circuit to ourselves, apart from a few other diehards.

We made a small diversion to a suspension bridge over the pretty spectacular Murrindindi River. A few kilometres later we welcomed the sight of parked cars. True to form, leader Paul got us to the end without too much wild weather and the heavens opened to heavy rain as we drove home.

Definitely top of the list, as one of the most epic views and enjoyable walks for our group. *(Report by Fran)*



**Upcoming walks** \* \*\* Please note that these are proposed walks, and may change. A final announcement with meeting arrangements will always be emailed out a few days before each walk.

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**14<sup>th</sup> August. Castlemaine area.** Leader Mary. Fryerstown to Vaughan Springs in the Castlemaine area.

· **Meet at Broadford Living and Learning Centre by 8.15 am to reach others at Kilmore library car park by 8.30 am.**

· Walk level: Easy medium walk. The distance can vary from 6 km or 6.6 km or 13 km. We have options folks. Fryerstown to Vaughan Springs is 5.6 kms. There is some uneven ground and a few gullies to cross, but overall, reasonably easy.

· If we have 2 cars, can do a car shuffle at Vaughan Springs. If a car shuffle is not possible, we return on foot the same way to Fryerstown, and it will be 11 km..

· We have another option of walking from Vaughan spring to Tubal Cain mine, which is 3.3kms from Vaughan Springs. The return would be 6.6 kms

So, depending on how many people are involved and how they are feeling, we have a number of options. The weather will be chilly, and the open hills give minimal protection, so rug up and bring a thermos, and lunch of course.

Looking forward to meeting up with the gang again, getting my boots back on and enjoying the great outdoors.

**Mary Adams 0428 479 469.** Ring or text beforehand please, so we know who to expect.

**28<sup>th</sup> August. Euroa.** Balmattum Hill and Seven Creeks river walk. Leader Marg. More information later.

**7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> September. Rubicon.** The Boy's Camping area. Overnight camp. Leader Mary.

**Also, on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Mt Piper.** Leader Fred. More later.

**25<sup>th</sup> September. Murrindindi River walk** inc. "Cascades". 11.5 km but mainly downhill and requiring a car shuffle. Leader Paul.

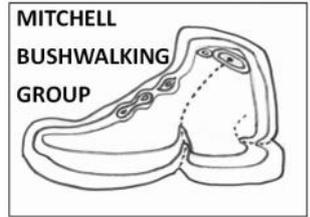
**Upcoming Planning meeting.** The next planning meeting, should be held on Monday 5th September, but will need to be confirmed.

*(John Brissett. Editor)*

**\*\*\* See Membership application form on the next page.**

# Mitchell Bushwalking Group

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



<i>Contact details may be made available to leaders for the purpose of organising trips.</i>			
Name:	Year born:		
Email:			
Postal Address:			
Phone:	Home:	Mobile:	Work:
Emergency Contact:	Name:	Mobile:	
Do you hold a Level 2 First Aid Certificate? Y / N		Date of qualification:	
Brief description of bushwalking/outdoor experience:			

**Acknowledgement of Risk – Please read and sign (all members over 18 years must sign)**

I am aware that my voluntary participation in any activity of this club may expose me to risks that could lead to injury, illness or death, or to loss of, or damage to, my property. These risks include, but are not limited to, slippery and/or uneven rocks, dislodged rocks, cliffs, exposure to weather and whiteout conditions, falling and hypothermia.

To minimize these risks I will endeavour to:

- Ensure that any activity I participate in is within my capabilities;
- Carry appropriate food, water and equipment for the activity;
- Advise the leader if I am taking any medication, or have any physical or other limitation which might affect my participation; and
- Make every effort to remain with the group during the activity and accept the instructions of the leader.

*I have read and understood these requirements and have considered the risks before choosing to sign this Acknowledgement of Risk. I accept that in signing this form I will take responsibility for my own actions.*

Name:	Signature:	Date:
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<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	Receipt No:	Database updated Date:
<b>Membership No:</b>	Receipt issued Date:	Email notification sent Date:

The club membership year is 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 to 31st July 2023. New members May –August pay half the annual subscription. Annual membership, which covers insurance through Bushwalking Victoria, is **currently \$35.00** . For further information please email: [mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com)

\* This form could be posted with a cheque to **Secretary, Mitchell Bushwalking Group, 3 Hibiscus Court, Kilmore, 3764** OR Scanned and sent electronically to [mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com) The membership fee could be paid via bank transfer to **Mitchell Bushwalking Group** at Bendigo Bank. The BSB number is **633-000** Account number: **160294047** Please write your surname in the Details section.